Dennis MacDonald
188 Milford St.,
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10/2/95

Dear Dennis,

I'll probably be including this in the package I'll be making I think tomorrow. When I'll also finish writing this. Carol again did not keep her word. I asked Jerry to phone her and leave what she had for me at the Hood library in his name on the chance they would not accept it for me. He got it this morning and sure enough she still had not duplicated the diskette. He'll have that done at Hood.

Jerry skimmed the package. She has done through Chapter 22, which tells us where to start copying. The pages on which I made corrections are all marked with paperclips. That is to be sure the girls did not miss them and I asked them to leave the clips on to get my attention. If this procedure is OK to you both, we'll continue to do that. And I made corrections and notes in red to be seen better.

When Jerry gets the diskette duplicated I'll send you the original. The dupe is for security, such as the original getting lost or damaged. I realize you may want to convert that to your own program.

I have a printout up to the corrections not made. I suppose you'll print it all for your own information so I tell you this not to make and send me a copy. I also have a duplicate of what I made the corrrrections on. I use that to check the corrections. This will be true of any I send you. I'm tired. It is in the event something happens. I check the corrections against the set with the paperclips.

I've looked at what she returned. It is all corrections and the original table of contents that now is not complete-at least 20 more chapters done. Do not regard that sequence of chapters as rigid. You may and possibly later will believe they should be shifted. There comes a time when it was chronological. Perhaps it should be broken into more parts, too. As I now remember it, when I got that part of Wedge I just inserted what I wrote without numbering the chapters. They may or may not be where they should be.

The first part grew longer than I'd had in mind. It is largely autobiographical. I had two things in mind. One was to give what I believe were the learning experience by which I learned what is not taught and in this sense to qualify myself for the work I've done and to tell especially young people that all of life is a learning experience.

After I return from my early-morning walking I'll get a sturdier box for these pages with corrections and I'll wrap and sent them. Jerry will try to get the diskette duplicated today and I'll send that separately. Boxes like I'll use are scarce for me and if you can resuse them that will help. Otherwise I'll package as best I can. And tell me your costs so I can repay you.

I've been going over some of the chapters chopped out of Hoax/Case Open and inserting them into the Mailer book. When I discussed this brief with Jerry yesterday

he expressed the belief that it can be worthwhile for students to see how writers sometimes are not faithful to the material and that they avoid what is public and easily available to them. That official bodies do the same thing with their own evidence, too.Some time ago Dave believed that my using what I had published, which is from the official evidence, was an effective way of doing that. I mention this because you and Gerry have printouts and with an explanation that it is an unreadd rough draft can perhaps use some chapters that way. I'm going over them now. The first of them that I'm using is Posner's and Random House's Impositions on Trust. From there I've used them in sequence up to what I'm now in Ignoring the Truth. I'm about half-way through it. I'm making no changes other than a few I've put inside brackets to reflect that what I'm using is what I wrote two years ago. In one of two places I've added a bit of continuity to reflect that what I said about Posner and his book applies also to Mailer and his book. Most of what I'm doing is typographical. In a few places something was missing and I'm not taking the time to dig the original out. But I think that the places that may be unclear or confusing to students are relatively few and would present little or no problem to their understanding.

At the beginning of these insertions I've gone back to some of the crazy things Mailer said, particularly that "evidence" is "impenetrable" and use that as the peg on which to hang these chapters. I did that also with Senator Russell Dissents. I broke it into two chapters.

But the new student who'd taken this over seems to have disappeared! And the one who was to work on it with her can't find her and got no return on messages left, as I have not. Only a few chapters were ~~written~~ done by still another student who'd graduated and was to to continue only she had to return to her home to care for her ill mother. The one not disappeared has done very little, one chapter. She has two more on hand to do.

I've just learned that Random House aborted Mailer's tour in early May. They had a falling out over it. It seems that he just did not show up for TV appearances in Chicago! I've been sent a clipping on that. This is to say they both suffered well-deserved disasters.

I intend concluding this book with an essay on monopoly and how it is taking over all the sources of information people have. I need what Newhouse is keeping scarce, what it owns other than than RH. I have what the RH empire consists of but it is only part of the Newhouse empire. I think but lack to proof that it also owns Parade as it does The New Yorker, which began the campaign behind the Mailer trash, that was continued in Parade. and you've seen what is happening in TV ownership.

I'm so glad we can finally get this started!

Thanks and best to you both,

Harold

last page copied
360, 4 XXX

Before leaving to shop and walk I copied through Chapter XXX, page 360, enough to fill the box and make a more secure package, and when home I made the package. But then I wondered what if delivered when Nancy is not home, would it have to stay on a doorstep and be in the rain, etc., so I'm sending it to you at the college. When I hear that all such mailings will be safe at your home, regardless of size, I can send all there.

I said Jerry would get the diskette duuplicated today. He will try to but we do not know when it will be done. As soon as it is I'll sned it.

Thanks and best,

Hardy